

LIBRARY COMMISSION

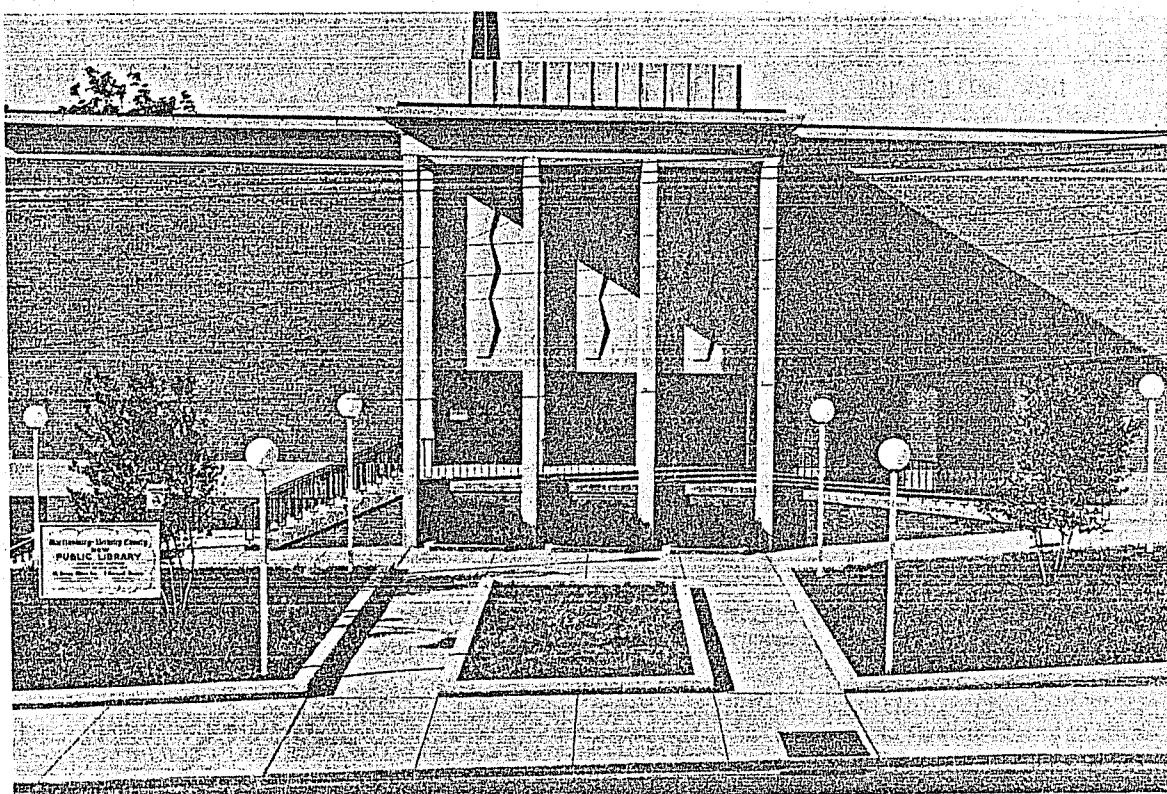
NEWSLETTER

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MARTINSBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY

September 26-28

Annual Conference of W.Va. Library Association

"Planning for New Buildings - What's Needed and What to Do" is the theme of the conference. A business meeting to elect officers for the Trustees section is scheduled for Friday afternoon, September 27. It will be preceded by a discussion on financing and legislation for public libraries.

Other highlights of the Friday program include: Jack Chitwood, Director of the Rockwood Public Library, on "The Role of Consultants, Librarians, and Board Members" in a morning session; Mrs. Rachel Gross, Regional Director of the American Library Trustees Association as the luncheon speaker; the banquet program will feature Charles Reid, trustee of an award winning library in Paramus, New Jersey.

MARTINSBURG DEDICATION
CEREMONIES
July 6

Governor Hulett Smith declared at the July 6, dedication of the Martinsburg building: "It is one large step toward a fulfillment of the West Virginia dream of equal educational opportunity and of improved cultural life for our

people".

Mr. T. Russell Bailey of Manassas, Virginia, designed the Martinsburg building which demonstrates in its design and its location central to the business district, the ideal way to attract a clientele. The cost summary includes \$90,000 for the site, \$443,236 for the construction, and \$49,080 for equipment. A total of 14,784 square feet of usable space have been created in the three level building.

The directors of the Martinsburg Library deserve special credit for their management of this building project: Mr. C.E. Campbell Beall, Chairman, Miss Jane Tavenner, Vice Chairman, Mrs. Robert Elins, Secretary, Mr. Mark Grove, Treasurer, and Mr. Paul Martin, a member.

CALHOUN COUNTY OPENED
NEW BUILDING
August 13

Mr. Perry O'Brien, President of the Alpha Regional Library Board was the chief speaker at the Grantsville ceremonies. Mr. Peter Zannoni, Chairman of the Advisory Committee, was in charge of arrangements for the dedication. This

is a small and economically constructed building affording 3,218 square feet. The project cost was \$95,836.46.

The completion of the building was the culmination of a long-time dream of the board. Board members include: Mrs. Nelle Hamilton, President, Mrs. A.G. Burns, Vice President, Mrs. Don Pitts, Secretary, Mr. Paul Gulley, Treasurer, and Mrs. Corel Poling, a member.

TEN
LIBRARY SCHOOL GRANTS
1968-69

With the completion of a contract between the State of West Virginia and the Southern Regional Education Board, new avenues for financing library education have been created. There is no school accredited by the American Library Association

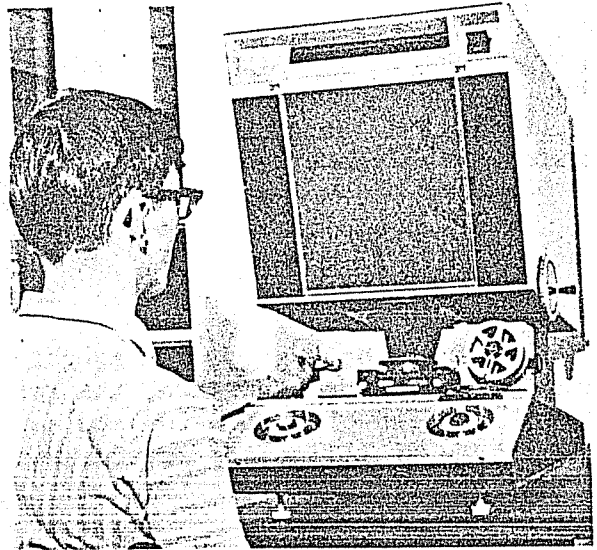
for training of professional librarians in the state. This new arrangement will pay out-of-state tuition at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and the University of Maryland at College Park. Ten students may participate in the program during the current fiscal year.

Students who have earned a bachelor's degree must send their credits to either library school seeking admission. After they have been admitted to library school, they should obtain a form from the West Virginia Library Commission at 2004 Quarrier Street or from Clarence A. Brock, Assistant State Superintendent of Schools at the State Capitol, Room W-127. The applicant must supply two references other than relatives who can verify their State residence.

The average starting salary on completion of Library School is \$7,200. The number of positions filled from Library Schools has grown 25 per cent each year during the past three years. A real opportunity beckons to West Virginians seeking graduate training in Library Science.

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED FOR INTER-LIBRARY COOPERATION
From Title III, Library Services and Construction Act

The Microfilm Reader-Printer is part of the equipment supplied the Martinsburg Library and 15 other college and public libraries to expedite the exchange of materials. Because of the space needed to store periodicals and newspapers, the back files are often purchased on Microfilm. This machine produces a copy from microfilm suited for mailing. For example, Martinsburg will have its local newspaper data available. The Library Commission has extensive filmed files of the New York Times.



In the center photo a teletype machine to speed up request service within W.Va. is shown. Instruments are located in public libraries at Martinsburg, Keyser, Morgantown, Weirton, Wheeling, Moundsville, Huntington, Charleston, Spencer, and Buckhannon; in the following college and university libraries: West Virginia at Morgantown, Glenville State, Concord, West Virginia State, West Virginia Tech and Marshall. All messages are relayed to the Library Commission. If the request cannot be supplied within the state, TWX is used to try out-of-state libraries. 491 requests were transmitted. 185 requests were filled through the network in July 1968. (First full month of operation).



Mrs. Anna Shewbridge, Head Librarian at Martinsburg, is using a copy machine which can reproduce both single pages and pages from a book. This is particularly useful in inter-library loan from bound periodicals and rare books which cannot be mailed.



NEW STAFF
IN
W.VA. LIBRARIES

Recent resignations and retirement have taken their toll in West Virginia's public libraries. In Morgantown Mrs. Florence Taylor resigned to accept a reference position at the University Library. A librarian from East Detroit, Michigan, Mr. Elliott R. Horton, replaced Mrs. Taylor on August 1. He is a graduate of Western Michigan Library School.

Mrs. Lois Hiebel, veteran Librarian of the Carnegie Library in Parkersburg, retired July 1. A University of Pittsburgh Library School graduate, Mrs. Dorothy Muse, has been appointed to fill the Wood County post.

Miss Martha Myers, who brought to the City-County Library at Moundsville great energy and enthusiasm, has resigned after eight years to become the Assistant Librarian of Gordon College near Boston. Mrs. Harriet Rittenhouse, a University of Illinois graduate, who has served as Cataloger at Moundsville, is Acting Librarian.

In Ravenswood Mrs. Velma Hutchinson retired after fifteen years and Mrs. Armida Hopfinger has been hired as her replacement. Mrs. Ruth Lillequist formerly at Sistersville has moved to St. Albans and Mrs. Dorothy Harsha replaces her. Also resigning after many years of service is Mrs. John Hutchinson of Cameron. Mrs. Ray Wellman succeeds her.

A new Reference Librarian, Mrs. Mary McKernon, a graduate of the University of Denver, has joined the Cabell County Library staff.

LIBRARY
COMMISSION
PERSONNEL

On August 26, Mr. Richard T. Pastorett joined the staff to head Development and Coordination of Library Resources. He received his professional training at Florida State University and comes to the Library Commission from Auburn University where he was head of Acquisitions and Assistant Professor. His responsibilities there included administration of the Acquisitions Department and Development of data processing. He comes to the Commission at a particularly strategic time because of the Commission's program of expansion in data processing.

On September 1, Miss Nancy B. Taylor, on leave of absence from the Veterans Administration Hospital Library, Huntington, joined the staff as a Consultant for State Institutional Library Service and Library Services to the Physically Handicapped. Her library degree is from the University of Illinois. Her successful experience in the Veterans Administration will be a great asset to the Commission's program under the Library Services and Construction Act, Titles IVA & IVB.

On September 1, Miss Mary Margaret Jenkins joined the staff as Consultant for libraries affiliated with the Book Express Area. Her library degree is from Rosary College. She comes to the Commission from Anne Arundel Library, Annapolis, Maryland, where she was a Reference Librarian.

Two recent college graduates will work with Miss Taylor as Library Assistants: Miss Carol Parsons, a graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan, joined the staff in the spring; and Miss Enolia Stalnaker, a West Virginia University graduate who was formerly employed at the Morgantown Public Library, joined the staff August 1.

WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

RETIREMENT SYSTEM

By GEORGE C. DUFFIELD
Executive Secretary
Public Employees Retirement System

The West Virginia Public Employees Retirement System was created by a 1961 Act of the Legislature, effective July 1, 1961. To date, fifty two municipalities in the State of West Virginia have elected to participate in the Retirement System, thereby covering all eligible employees. All full-time, permanent employees of any municipality which has elected to participate are covered under the Retirement System unless they are a member of, or retired by State Teachers' Retirement System, the Judges' Retirement System, the retirement system of the Department of Public Safety, or the retirement system of a municipality for policemen or firemen, or both. Any municipality may elect to participate in the Retirement System by an affirmative three-fifths vote of its governing body.

The Retirement System now has assets of approximately \$41 Million and is paying monthly benefits to more than 2,100 former employees of state, county, and municipal governments. The average benefits these employees have been receiving have amounted to approximately \$65 per month; however, effective March 1, 1968, this will be increased to approximately \$100 per month.

At the 1968 session of the Legislature, amendments to the Retirement Act were passed and signed into law by Governor Smith, most important of which increased benefits by 50% to all those already retired and those retiring in the future. Briefly, legislation that was recently enacted into law does the following:

- (1) Effective March 1, 1968, it increases the benefit formula from 1% of final average salary to 1.5% of final average salary times number of years worked. Not only does this affect those retiring after March 1, 1968, but those already retired will receive an increase in their pension by 50% effective with their March annuity payment.
- (2) Military Service. This now provides that any person who is a member of the Retirement System and served in the Armed Forces of the United States during any period of compulsory military service may receive credited service with the Retirement System for time spent in the Armed Forces for a period not to exceed five years. This does not contemplate reserve time-- only active duty. Primarily it would affect those persons who served in World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict and the Vietnam conflict. Members should be advised to send copies of their discharge or other official document which shows their dates of active service.
- (3) Early Retirement. A paragraph was added to Section 21 under Deferred Retirement and Early Retirement which, in addition to the provisions heretofore contained, adds the following: Any person a member of the Retirement System who has twenty years or more of credited service and terminates his employment with a participating employer before attaining age fifty-five may at age fifty-five, or before attaining age sixty-two, make application and receive early retirement benefits, being a reduced annuity based on the actuarial equivalent of his longer years of expected retirement, provided he left his contributions with the Retirement System.

(4) Disability Retirement. This now guarantees that a person retired under disability will receive not less than 37.5% of his final average salary to age sixty-five, thereafter he will be guaranteed of receiving not less than 15% of his final average salary. Heretofore this was 25% and 10%.

(5) Nonduty Death Annuities (three provisions).

(a) Provides that any member with ten years or more of credited service may nominate a beneficiary and if he dies while in the employ of a participating employer, or has terminated his employment and left his contributions with the Retirement System, and said person dies before attaining age sixty-two, said nominated beneficiary will be entitled to an annuity for his or her lifetime provided he or she has an insurable interest in the life of the member.

The discrimination as to the female members of the System under all of Section 27 has been removed.

(b) Provides that any member of the Retirement System who has ten years or more of credited service and dies while (1) either in the employ of a participating employer, or (2) dies after terminating his employment but having left his contributions with the Retirement System and before attaining age sixty-two, that if he leaves surviving a spouse, whether it be male or female, that the surviving spouse is entitled to an annuity for his or her lifetime.

(c) Provides that any member of the Retirement System who has ten years or more of credited service and dies while in the employ of a participating employer, or dies after leaving the employ of a participating employer but who has left his contributions with the Retirement System, and who does not leave surviving him a spouse but does leave surviving infant children, said infant children are guaranteed an annuity to age twenty-one.

(6) Members Contributions. This Bill provides that members' contributions to the Retirement System shall be a sum of not less than 3.5% of their gross pay or more than 4.5% of their gross pay, as determined by the Board of Trustees, Effective July 1, 1968, the members' contributions will be raised to 4.5%.

(7) Employers' Contributions. This Bill provides that the employers' contributions, that is, the state, county or municipal employers, shall contribute a sum not to exceed 7.5% of payroll, as determined by the Board of Trustees. It is contemplated that the state's matching contributions will be 6.4% of payroll and that non-state (counties, municipalities, boards of health, and other public corporations) matching contributions will be 7.5% of payroll. This should be taken into consideration in preparing budgets for next year.

(8) Member of the Legislature. The Bill provides that final average salary for members of the Legislature upon their retiring will be their actual compensation (\$1,500) multiplied by eight. This has the effect of retiring them on a base salary of \$12,000, however, the Bill further provides that hereafter they shall contribute 36% of payroll, or \$540 of their \$1,500 annual pay.

Any municipality that desires information concerning the Retirement System, or any person who desires any information concerning his personal account and service with the Retirement System, should contact the West Virginia Public Employees Retirement System, 804 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Charleston, West Virginia or telephone Charleston 348-2031.